

Annual
Girl Scout cookie
sales underway



INSIDE

New Hope
Seniors receive
treats for
Christmas



INSIDE

Elba Tigers add
two wins during
tourney play



The Elba Clipper

Volume 125, Number 33

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, January 6, 2022

1 Section, 8 Pages

Suspect currently in Covington County Jail on charges in that county

Elba Police seize multiple drugs from Reese Avenue residence

by Linda Hodge, Editor

An Elba man remains in a Covington County jail this week after he was found to be in possession of large amounts of illegal drugs, including ice (methamphetamine).

Lt. Russ Young with the Elba Police Department said Elba Police received information last week that a resident at 715 Reese Avenue, Elba, was going to be "picked up and taken to Covington County with drugs." He said officers completed a surveillance of the area to verify the information.

Young said a car came



Albert Green, age 66, of Elba, was found to be in possession of large amounts of illegal drugs last week.

to the residence and picked up the suspect, then trav-

eled to Covington County where officials there made a traffic stop. That traffic stop resulted in Covington County officials finding over 80 grams of ice and a gun in the suspect's possession.

Young said Albert Howard Green, age 66, of Elba, was arrested and placed in the Covington County Jail.

Following Green's arrest in Covington County, Elba Police secured a search warrant Thursday, Dec. 30, for his residence and vehicle in Elba. Lt. Young said the search of the property resulted in Elba officers finding more illegal

drugs, including ecstasy, cocaine, methamphetamine (ice), marijuana, and THC oil [which is considered a controlled substance in Alabama]. Also, he said a large amount of cash was seized.

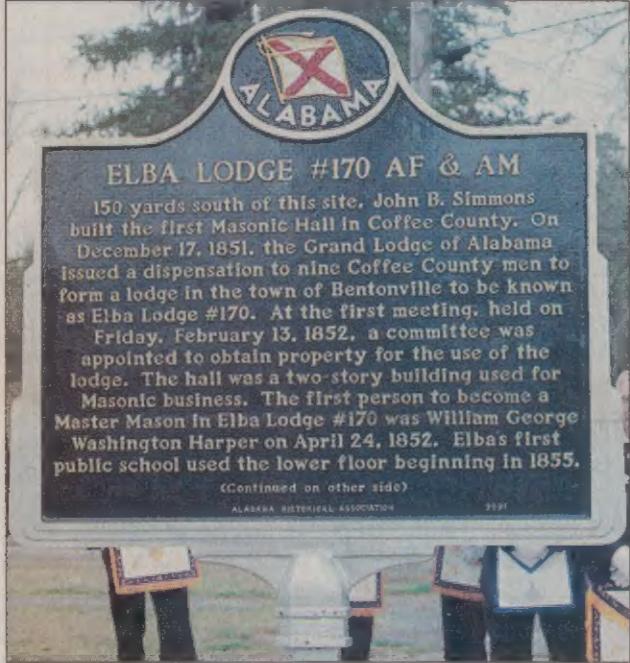
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A look back at the top headlines from 2021



In a special ceremony held on a cold Saturday afternoon in February, the Elba Masonic Lodge #170 unveiled a historical marker (shown above) being gifted to the city in downtown Elba. Masons from across the state were in attendance for this special event.

Former Coffee County Sheriff Ben Moates died Feb. 18th from COVID-19 complications

March - Elba's Clint Bradshaw and dog, Briggs, win UFTA national champion award two years in a row; Elba Mayor Tom Maddox reported to Elba City Council members that business privilege license sales had increased greatly for the year; Elba Volunteer Fire Department responds

March 4th to a brush fire that spread to a bulk trash storage area on the INZI Controls grounds; Elba Chamber holds ribbon cutting ceremony March 4th for Just Fashion in downtown Elba; Elba City Council votes to purchase seven Ford Crown Victoria vehicles from Enterprise to be used by Elba Police Department; Elba's Tia

Germany named winner of PowerSouth Energy Cooperative and Southeast Alabama Works! Resume Contest; COVID-19 vaccination drive-thru clinic held in Elba hosted by the city and Troy Regional Medical Center; Elba BOE approves hire of Colby Cappa to be new technology coordinator for Elba City Schools; Elba City Clerk Sally Bane announced the Elba Public Library and Evergreen Cemetery Board had been designated as beneficiaries of the Estate of Catherine Brunson Luening - each would receive approximately \$400,000 from the estate

April - Local resident Chad Trott seriously injured March 24th in two-vehicle accident at intersection of U.S. Hwy. 84 and County Rd. 514 in New Brockton; Dennis James of Elba

February - Elba City Council discusses using incentives to be more aggressive in attracting new businesses to Elba; Mayor Tom Maddox announces to Elba City Council that discussions had taken place with ALDOT representative regarding U.S. Hwy. 84 concerns on the four-lane project, including the need for median adjustments to benefit businesses along the route through Elba; Coffee County Commission votes to guarantee loan on project to construct redundant water line to new Ben E. Keith facility in New Brockton; Elba City Council votes to waive sewer/garbage fees for Enterprise Rescue Inc.; On Feb. 8th, ALDOT began work to convert the intersection of Claxton Avenue and the Troy Highway in downtown Elba to an "All Way Stop" condition; Elba Masonic Lodge gifts historical marker to the City of Elba, locating it at the corner of Davis Street and Claxton Avenue in Elba; Coffee County Sheriff's Office announces the arrest Feb. 18th of Charles Jones and Dezarae Wiggins in connection to the Jan. 12th arson at Car City located on Hwy. 231 in Brundidge, Ala.; Coffee County Habitat for Humanity dedicates a new home in Elba in memory of Paul Morrow - recipient of the home was Tawanna Thomas and her children;

See YEAR, Page 3

Area Happenings

THE ELBA REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY will meet Tuesday, Jan. 11, at 7:30 a.m. at Elba City Hall. This meeting is open to the public.

THE COFFEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT will hold its monthly board meeting Thursday, Jan. 20, at the Coffee County Commission Room, 1065 E. McKinnon Street, New Brockton, Ala. The meeting will start at 10 a.m. A limited number of people can be in the room so if those planning to attend are asked to call 334-894-5581X3.

A BEEKEEPING 101 CLASS will be held each Monday, beginning Monday, Jan. 24, at Enterprise State Community College [ESCC]. This is a 10-week course, open to the public, and ends March 28th. Cost to participate is \$15. ESCC is partnering with Southeast Alabama Beekeeping Association member Richard Woodham to bring this class to the community. Each Monday evening class will be from 6:30-8 p.m., and a variety of topics will be covered. Participants can register for the class at https://escc.formstack.com/forms/communityenrichment_application

Elba man arrested following

New Year's Eve accident

A single vehicle accident Friday evening, Dec. 31, in Elba resulted in one man being arrested after another was taken to the hospital with serious injuries.

Just after 6:01 p.m. last Friday night, a deputy with the Coffee County Sheriff's Office reported encountering a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed on County Road 239 near Elba. Seconds later the vehicle wrecked, according to reports.

The driver of the vehicle, Jalen Hooks, age 21, of Elba was arrested by the Coffee County Sheriff's Office. He was charged with assault - first degree and attempting to elude with death or injury.

Officials said a passenger, Kordale Villella, also of Elba, in the vehicle Hooks was operating recklessly was seriously injured in the accident. He was transported to an area hospital for treatment of injuries sustained.

Hooks was released from the Coffee County Jail on bond Saturday, Jan. 1, 2022. He has a \$30,000 bond for the assault charge and a \$6,000 bond for the attempt to elude charge.



Jalen Hooks

Make plans to visit now!

Smithsonian traveling exhibit coming to Elba this February

The Alabama Humanities Feb. 18, at the Elba Public Alliance has partnered with Library, also located in the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street (moMS) program to bring the Water/Ways traveling exhibition to five Alabama cities, and Elba is the final stop on the tour.

Participants of the workshop will explore how Alabama's waterways have shaped Alabama's history, learn to use Google Earth in the classroom, tour the traveling Smithsonian exhibit at the Elba Theatre, and walk to the WPA levee in Elba. Instructors will be Dr. Jim Brown, Ph.D., retired historian (Samford University), and Dr. Bill Deutsch, Ph.D., retired aquatic biologist (Auburn University).

Teacher benefits include a \$100 stipend, 5 CEU credits, lunch, tour of Water/Ways, and copy of Dr. Deutsch's book, Alabama Rivers.

Visit the website [<https://alabamahumanities.org/program/water-ways/>] to register for the teacher workshop.

For more information about the exhibit and/or the teacher workshop, contact Sandy Bynum-Williams at the Elba Chamber of Commerce. Call (334) 897-3125 or email: elbachamber@troycable.net

"We are very excited to have this exhibit coming to Elba and hope everyone plans to stop by and see it," said Bynum-Williams.



ACCOUNTING OFFICE CELEBRATES NEW LOCATION...The Elba Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting ceremony Tuesday morning, Jan. 4, for Wood Accounting LLC as the office celebrated opening in its new downtown Elba location. The accounting office, owned and operated by Melissa Wood, is now located at 415 W Davis Street, Elba [next to Williams Auto Parts]. Several well-wishers joined Wood, Elba Chamber officials, and Elba queens for the ribbon cutting ceremony on the chilly January morning (shown above). This ribbon cutting ceremony was one of two planned in Elba for the first week of January, 2022.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

"Iron rusts from disuse, stagnant water loses its purity, and in cold weather becomes frozen; even so does inaction sap the vigors of the mind." ~ Leonardo da Vinci

We read the opinions of a couple of 'experts' last week discussing the possible new garbage that would explode on social media in 2022. It is hard to think things could get any wilder than they are today. Of course there was the Great Moon Hoax of 1835 claiming there had been life found on the moon. Later in the 1990s Bill and Hillary Clinton were fair game for the wild tales, Hillary adopting an alien baby, having an affair with an alien, aliens endorsing Bill for President, etc. Most of that was confined to the tabloids, found mostly at or near the grocery store checkout counters. In 2021 they exploded on social media to the point that many of us don't know for sure what to believe anymore 'from anything we hear nor half of what we see.'

Looking ahead to 2022, it's important to address this cynicism created from the overflow of 'fake news'. How is this going to be done? This time our limited brain just says, "fix it!" Probably it would go a long way if each of us would step back and ponder if the news sites we are reading or listening to have been largely correct or almost always far out or at best unprovable! Then we could just start ignoring such fake news sites. Hey - that doesn't include The Elba Clipper!

Monday was "Chocolate Covered Cherries" Day in the U.S. Reading that tidbit brought back a flood of good (and maybe comical) memories from our childhood. We were probably obsessed with the idea of always having enough money to purchase a 'nice' present for mother . . . Christmas, Birthday, Mother's Day, etc. It is easy to recall an eight - ten year old me buying several sets of flowered drinking glasses from the dime store (that probably broke within a few months). On at least one of those annual special days of gift buying (not sure which one(s) it was), meant mother was going to get a box of delicious chocolate covered cherries. They were presented with pride and my chest would almost explode from the neck hug that followed. Of course she impressed this boy child with her willingness to share such a treasure. It was years and years later after we were grown that she confessed she didn't like chocolate covered cherries but didn't want to shatter my obvious satisfaction of picking out such a wonderful gift. Ah ha . . . that was why she was so gracious with the sharing of her candy!!! Now we tend to avoid more than one occasionally because they are so sweet.

Senator Jimmy Holley came in for some high praise recently when Troy's Steve Flowers, who writes a weekly newspaper editorial column in a number of Alabama newspapers, plus has a regular radio show and a public television show, recapped Holley's storied political career and praised him at every step. He concluded that Jimmy's district and all of Alabama would miss his long time, dedicated service to the citizens. This is not the first time we have heard such praises of dedication for this Coffee County native and lifetime resident. Of course please don't tell him we even hinted at something nice about him, because he might think his long-time friend has finally become a loyal supporter!

Language experts consider English as one of the hardest (if not THE hardest) language for others to learn. A prime example of that is the word 'run'. Reader's Digest quotes the upcoming edition of Oxford English Dictionary as having 645 definitions for the three-letter word 'run'! We can just pause for a moment and think of the different ways we use the word and accept that the dictionary folks might be correct in their number of definitions of 'run'.

Be safe, wear your mask, social distance, wash your hands AND get the shot(s) and/or booster!

THE FOUR WAY TEST



of the things we Think, Say or Do

- First - Is it the TRUTH?
- Second - Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Third - Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Fourth - Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Compliments of

ELBA ROTARY CLUB

The Elba Clipper

USPS 171-080

is published every Thursday by The Elba Clipper,
417 W. Buford St., Elba, Alabama 36323
Publication Postage paid at Elba, Alabama 36323

Postmaster: Send Address Changes To:
The Elba Clipper, P.O. Box 677, Elba, AL 36323-0677

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6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$24 per year - including tax
6 months - \$13
Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15

The Elba Parks and Recreation's youth basketball season is now underway! Support these young guys and gals with your attendance at their games! Contact the Elba Parks and Rec for schedules or more information!

Cuzin Lou Lou's Tales from Yonder
Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

Cuzin Lou Lou got the last laugh off a joke Sister thought she was pulling on Lou Lou the other night...

While the two were on a recent shopping excursion, Lou Lou purchased a new pair of pajamas. She was really excited to try them out because the weather had gone from tropical paradise to arctic blast quicker than a sports car goes from 0 to 60, and these were sure to be cozy.

Unfortunately, Lou Lou put the new jammies on and immediately began itching. There was a thread in the material that Lou Lou was allergic to, and her body quickly said, "No ma'am! Get that mess away from me!"

Lou Lou changed into another pair of pajamas and the irritation immediately went away - further proving the theory of there being something in the material causing a problem. As her skin settled back down and the red marks from the irritation quickly went away, Lou Lou offered to give the new pajamas to Sister. She decided someone should reap the benefits of the new clothes.

As her skin settled back down and the red marks from the irritation quickly went away, Lou Lou offered to give the new pajamas to Sister. She decided someone should reap the benefits of the new clothes.

A short while later, Sister came into the room where Lou Lou was cuddling with

And, here is where the joke flipped on Sister! By this time, she had changed into her own new pajamas, which she purchased at the same time Lou Lou purchased hers. Difference was...Sister had already worn her new pajamas the night prior too.

She reached back to the spot where she found the tag in Lou Lou's pajama pants still in place, and uh oh! Yep...there she found a tag still attached to her pj's too!!

It is at that point where Lou Lou said to Sister, "Looks like we both are goobers this time! It must run in the family!"

So, there you have it... If you are going to tell someone they are a goober, be sure first you too are not one!

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling!

at 429 Plant Ave - w/ animal impound (7:24 a.m.); Harassment reported at 879 Cedar Lane Dr (8:38 a.m.); Harassment reported at 702 Newton St (10:46 a.m.); Animal complaint reported on Taylor Mill Rd (10:46 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1649 Boswell St (11:27 a.m.); Civil complaint reported at 5834 County Rd 364 (11:48 a.m.); Harassment reported at 967 Elm Ave (2:09 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 1303 Reese Ave (7:13 p.m.); Drug activity reported at 715 Reese Ave (8:00 p.m.); Disturbance reported at 638 Claxton Ave N (8:06 p.m.);

Elba Police Report

Elba Police between Tuesday, December 28, 2021, and Monday, January 3, 2022, conducted the following activity:

Tuesday, Dec. 28 - Suspicious person reported at 611 Claxton Ave N (3:57 p.m.); Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle reported at 4035 Hwy 125 (8:58 p.m.). There were two traffic stops on this date resulting in one citation and one written warning.

Wednesday, Dec. 29 - Animal complaint reported at 661 Davis St E (9:53 a.m.); Domestic complaint reported at 651 Reynolds Ave (10:48 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1272 Ann St (12:30 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 223 Court Ave (7:18 p.m.); Intoxicated person reported at 834 Washington Ave (7:31 p.m.); Burglary reported at 883 Cedar Lane Dr (9:57 p.m.); Civil complaint reported at 879 Cedar Lane Dr (10:07 p.m.). There were two traffic stops on this date resulting in verbal warnings.

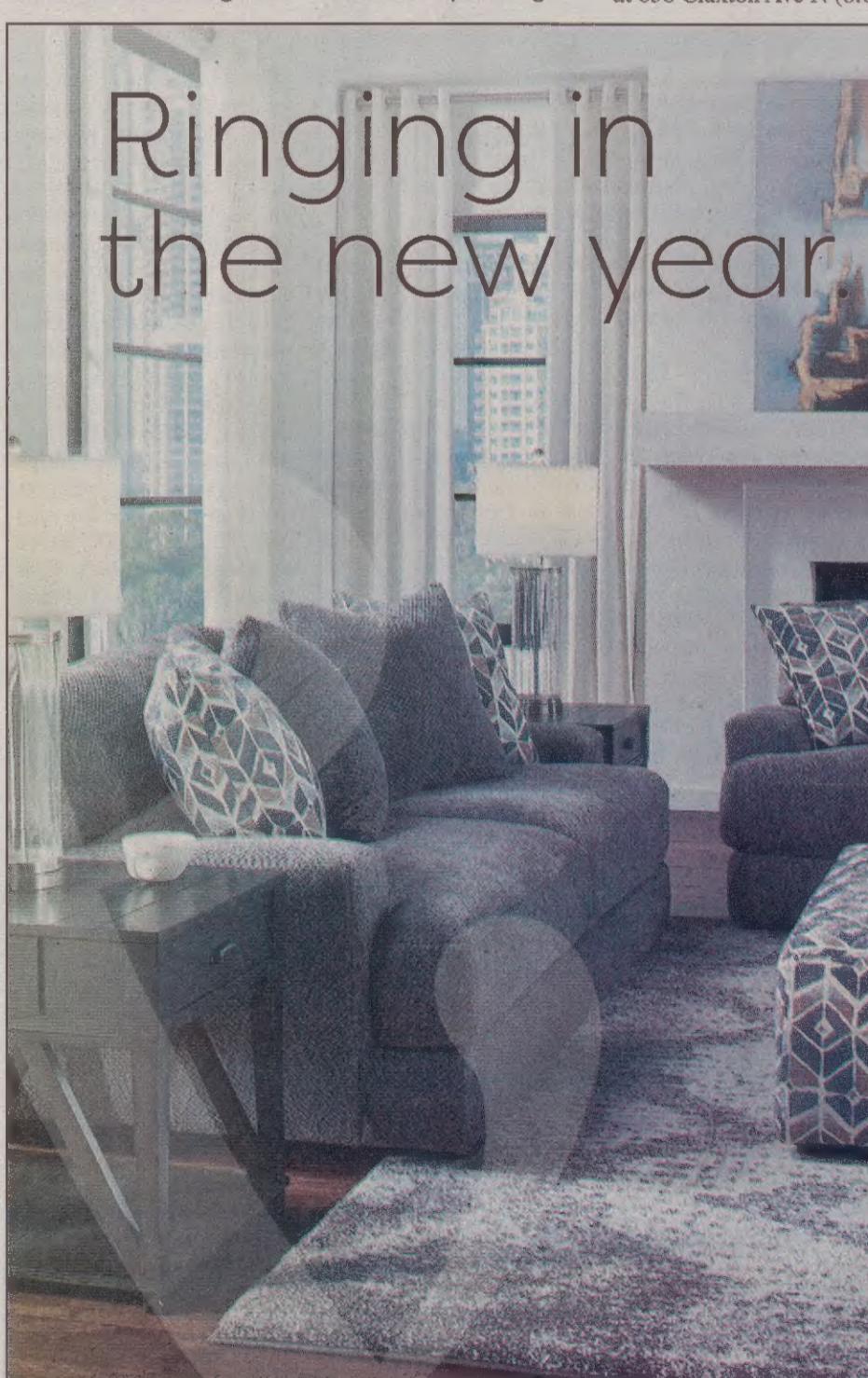
Thursday, Dec. 30 - Suspicious person reported at Martin Luther King Dr and Adkinson Ave (1:35 a.m.); Suspicious person reported at 221 Davis St E (5:11 a.m.); Suspicious person reported at Martin Luther King Dr and Lee St (5:26 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 429 Plant Ave - w/ animal impound (7:24 a.m.); Harassment reported at 879 Cedar Lane Dr (8:38 a.m.); Harassment reported at 702 Newton St (10:46 a.m.); Animal complaint reported on Taylor Mill Rd (10:46 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1649 Boswell St (11:27 a.m.); Civil complaint reported at 5834 County Rd 364 (11:48 a.m.); Harassment reported at 967 Elm Ave (2:09 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 1303 Reese Ave (7:13 p.m.); Drug activity reported at 715 Reese Ave (8:00 p.m.); Disturbance reported at 638 Claxton Ave N (8:06 p.m.);

Friday, Dec. 31 - Suspicious circumstances reported to Elba Police (4:46 a.m.); Suspicious person reported on Hwy 84 (5:02 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1018 Martin Luther King Dr (5:28 a.m.); ATV complaint reported on Martin Luther King Dr (12:07 p.m.); Reckless driver reported on Reynolds Ave (12:54 p.m.); Criminal mischief reported at 1404 Reese Ave (1:33 p.m.); Harassment reported to Elba Police (4:59 p.m.); Vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed reported at 2569 County Rd 239 - resulting in a traffic accident and an arrest (6:01 p.m.); ATV complaint reported on Reynolds Ave (6:42 p.m.); Traffic accident reported at Hwy 125 and Hwy 84 (6:46 p.m.); Verbal altercation reported at 976 Morrow Ave (7:05 p.m.); Verbal altercation reported at 879 Cedar Lane Dr (9:43 p.m.); Report of shots fired on Martin Luther King Dr (11:32 p.m.); Report of shots fired on Reynolds Ave (11:39 p.m.). There were six traffic stops on this date resulting in two citations, one arrest, and three verbal warnings.

Saturday, Jan. 1 - Report of shots fired on Farris Ave (12:05 a.m.); Report of shots fired on Claxton Ave N (12:39 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 979 County Rd 239 (9:14 a.m.); Criminal mischief reported at 429 Plant Ave (10:01 a.m.); Theft of property reported at 154 Yelverton Ave (10:36 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 897 Cedar Lane Dr (12:52 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 870 Cedar Lane Dr (3:18 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 1559 Gibson St (3:47 p.m.); Burglary reported at 21161 Hwy 189 (4:06 p.m.); Trespassing reported at 191 Lake Lee Dr (7:01 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 997 Hwy 203 (7:39 p.m.); Verbal altercation reported at 1013 Hickman Ave (7:50 p.m.); Woods/Grass fire reported at Hwy 84 E and Stroud Ave (9:41 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 1150 Claxton Ave N (10:28 p.m.). There was one traffic stop on this date resulting in a verbal warning.

Sunday, Jan. 2 - Disturbance reported at 879 Cedar Lane Dr (9:13 a.m.); Criminal mischief reported at 885 Cedar Lane Dr (11:30 a.m.); Suspicious person reported at 861 Cedar Lane Dr (4:54 p.m.); Traffic accident reported on Reese Ave (6:36 p.m.); Verbal altercation reported at 221 Davis St E (7:11 p.m.); Traffic accident reported at 223 County Rd 501 (7:26 p.m.).

Monday, Jan. 3 - Animal complaint reported on Taylor Mill Rd (9:01 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1991 Taylor Mill Rd - w/ animal impound (11:33 a.m.); Reckless driver reported on Hwy 84 (1:23 p.m.); Reckless driver reported on Davis St E (3:35 p.m.); Harassment reported at 879 Cedar Lane Dr (4:20 p.m.); Intoxicated driver reported at 19734 Hwy 87 (6:33 p.m.); Suspicious person reported in area of Hwy 84 and Claxton Ave (7:44 p.m.); Suspicious person reported in area of Martin Luther King Dr and Hwy 84 (7:47 p.m.); Suspicious person reported N of intersection on Hwy 87 (8:35 p.m.). There were three traffic stops on this date resulting in two verbal warnings, and one written warning.



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YEAR

(Continued from Page One)

Education to fill the District Three spot

May - Choral Department at Elba High School brought Disney's Aladdin Jr. to life with performances May 3rd and 4th at the school's auditorium; Governor Kay Ivey announces the COVID-19 public health order would end May 31st and the state of emergency for Alabama would end July 6th; Elba Chamber hosts "Don't Drop It on Elba" community clean-up day; Elba High School golf team wins AHSA Class 1A/2A golf championship; Coffee County BOE hires Brendan Dow to be assistant principal at Kinston; Cassidy Brooke Smith killed in two-vehicle wreck May 7th approximately nine miles south of Elba near County Rd 437 intersection; Coffee County Commission votes to expend \$4.5 million to build new cell at county landfill; Juan Careaga, of Jack, Ala., arrested May 13th by Elba Police on fugitive from justice charge; Two women from Opp - Virginia Holley Gipps and Khadijah Renea Lane - were both killed in a motor vehicle wreck May 13th on U.S. Hwy 84 about six miles east of Opp when their vehicles collided; Elba's Joseph Cline selected to swim at 2022 Special Olympics National Games to be held in Orlando, Fla.; Coffee County Revenue Commissioner Ronnie Burns reports countywide increase in tax collections for the year; Elba's state champion golf team honored at Coffee County Commission meeting

June - Elba Splash Pad opens for the season; Wiregrass Elite 10U travel ball team wins TBUSA World Series tournament held in Panama City Beach, Fla. - four members of the team also compete with Kinston Rec baseball, including Evan Hilburn, Jon Simmons, Rylen Hawthorne, and Easton Parker; Elba Elementary School principal Debra Strickland placed on administrative leave following her arrest in Geneva County June 5th where she left the scene of an accident with injury; Ozell McNabb arrested June 6th in Elba and charged with the attempted murder of Michael Juan Patrick; Elba Volunteer Fire Department assists with fire June 7th that destroyed Doc's Country Store in Opp; Elba Farmers Market opens for June and July; Elba Police arrest Isaiah Nuber and Sheaneal Lee, both from Illinois, charging them with drug trafficking, along with possession of marijuana, and possession of drug paraphernalia; Elba Elementary School principal Debra Strickland resigns from her position with Elba City Schools; Johnny Senn affirmed as newest school board member for Elba; Simmons Street culvert repair project approved by FEMA for funding; Coffee County Board of Education names four finalists for superintendent's job - Dr. Adam Clemons, Jeff Jones, Thomas "Gray" Harrison, and Kelly Cobb; Elba Police arrest Lucy Smith of Montgomery and Aaron Vinson of Opelika charging them with multiple drug offenses; Zion Chapel Bass



Elba High School senior Nevaeh Sanders was crowned the 2021 Homecoming Queen in September during Principal Wynn Grimes crowned Sanders.

Obituaries

Obits are updated regularly on our website: www.elba-clipper.com

BRITTNEY KAYE McGOUGH

Ms. Brittney Kaye McGough, age 54, of Daleville, Ala., died Sunday, Jan. 2, 2022, at Medical Center Enterprise. No local services will be held. Ms. McGough will be buried in Van Alstyne, Texas with arrangements being handled by Scroggins Funeral Home in Van Alstyne. Hayes Funeral Home, Elba, Ala., assisted the family locally.

Survivors include her friend: Mike York, Daleville; sons: Clinton Tyler McGough, Kyle Lee McGough, and Nash Hedin; along with her mother: Linda Carol Dedmon; grandson: Mason McGough; sisters: Shelley Heatley, and Mindy Merlin, and a brother: Paul Dedmon.

LENARD HARGROVE

Mr. Lenard Hargrove, age 88, of Elba, Ala., died Saturday, Jan. 1, 2022, at his home. Funeral services were held Monday, Jan. 3, from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba. Burial followed in Evergreen Cemetery under the direction of Hayes Funeral Home.

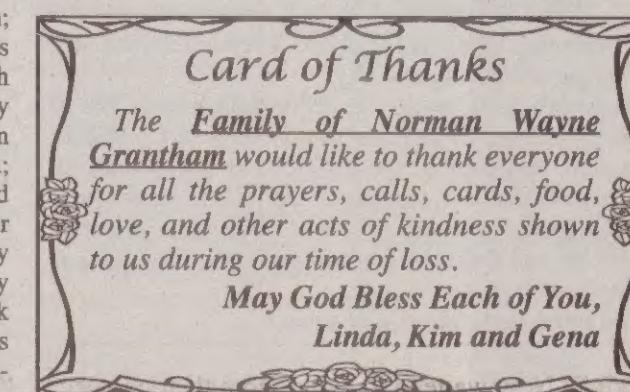
Lenard served his coun-

try in the United States Navy.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Patricia Ruth O'Leary Hargrove, and Oscar Alexander Hargrove.

Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Vivian Hargrove, Elba; son: Hunter Hargrove, Elba; daughters: Beverly (Paul) Free, Ponchatoula, La., and Shannon (Terry Glyn) Kersey, Troy, Ala.; grandsons: Jared Paul Free, Terry Glyn Kersey II, and Max Len Kersey, Troy; granddaughters: Ashlee Brooke Kersey, Troy, Sadie Mae Hargrove, and Katie Lynn Hargrove, both of Geneva, Ala.

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CHURCH & AREA NEWS

PASTOR'S CORNER

by Steve Reneau, Pastor
Elba United Methodist Church

Year with Two Christmases

A number of years ago, I had the privilege to travel with Birmingham-Southern College during our January term with Bishop Robert Morgan of the United Methodist Church. Every year he would take students to the British Isles for a Methodist Heritage tour, the Holy Land, our across the Mediterranean following the footsteps of the Apostle Paul.

This year, we would travel to modern day Turkey, Greece, and Italy to learn more about Paul's missionary endeavors. We got to walk the streets of Ephesus, see the arches of Troas, and sail into the port of Athens. When we arrived in Greece in early January, we started visiting historic churches of the faith to find that each was in a feverous preparation for Christmas. Wait! What? It was January! Christmas was last month in December. What in the world was happening??

An orthodox priest explained to us that the Western church, i.e. Roman Catholics, Protestants, and etc. are on a different calendar (the Gregorian Calendar) than the Eastern church (the Julian Calendar). This means that we celebrate Christmas on different days! The Western church of course on December 25th, and the Eastern church on what we would call January 7th. All of a sudden, we realized that we would get to celebrate Christmas all over again with our Eastern brothers and sisters.

It was fascinating to see the differences in celebrating the birth of Christ. Yet, above all, it was so freezing; since we had already had Christmas, and there were no presents to wrap, no long drives to relatives' houses, no meals to prepare. In that moment, we could just simply celebrate Christmas. We got to meditate what it meant for us that in the Incarnation (God becoming human in Jesus) God moved toward humanity to save humanity.

I have to admit, even as a Pastor, Christmas is a stressful time with the long list of everything that has to get done. Sometimes I wish I could have another year with two Christmases. Then, I remind myself that Christmas is not only one day.

December 25th begins our Christmas season, but as the carol teaches us there are twelve days of Christmas. This year celebrate all the days of Christmas once all the presents are unwrapped, all the house guests have returned home, and the fridge is filled with leftovers. Take time and focus on one simple truth: God became human to save you.

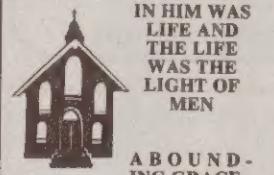
God loves you. Merry Christmas!

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A BOUNDING GRACE

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Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.

ABUNDANT LIFE
CHURCH SAMSON, Ala.
Richard Thorn Sr., Pastor
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Night Service 7:00 p.m.

DORCAS BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 7:00 p.m.

ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH
Harry Driggers, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH
Sam Self, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 6:30 p.m.

BETHEL AME CHURCH
Deborah A. Butler, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:30 a.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:30 p.m.

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH
Greg Coffey, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.
Disciple Train . . . 5:30 p.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:30 p.m.

BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH
Robert Davis, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:30 p.m.

CHESTNUT GROVE METHODIST CHURCH
Remonia Smith, Pastor
Church Service . . . 9:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

SUNDAY SCHOOL . . . 9:00 a.m.
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
Larry McRae, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Night . . . 7:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
Lovel Martin, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 7:00 p.m.

ELBA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Kris Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

HAW HILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Steve Reneau, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

HAW HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Steve Reneau, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

MARSHALL BAPTIST CHURCH
Olan Strickland, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

NEW HAVEN BAPTIST CHURCH
OF GOD CHURCH
Brad Sesser, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 6:30 p.m.

NEW HAWAIIAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Steve Reneau, Pastor
Morn. Worship . . . 8:45 a.m.

NEW HAWAIIAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Steve Reneau, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 7:00 p.m.

NEW HAWAIIAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Mark Cooper Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

NEW HAWAIIAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Larry Shepard, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

NEW HAWAIIAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Fiji Missionary Ser. 7:00 p.m.

Harris Temple COGIC to host leadership conference January 14-15 in Elba, Ala.

Harris Temple Church ed! of God in Christ will host a 2022 Leadership Conference on Friday, Jan. 14, and Saturday, Jan. 15.

The guest speaker for Friday, Jan. 14, at 7 p.m., will be Pastor Anthony Wheeler of Huntsville, Alabama! Saturday's session will be from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Lunch provided.

New Hope Senior Center taking apps for new participants

New Hope Senior Citizens Center is looking for a "Few Good Men and Women" to become a part of the senior center family! The center is taking applications for new participants.

For more information, contact center director Conzuela Banks at (334) 735-5433.

Call Today!!

NOTICE:
Anyone age 60 or over needing a meal, or for questions about the Elba Senior Center or SARCOA, call the center at (334) 897-3019.

Girl Scouts annual cookie sales begin for leadership, goal setting, decision-making, money management, people skills, and business ethics.

On January 14, 2022, Girl Scouts will begin selling their cookies in booth sales as well as online and door-to-door sales. Girl Scouts of Southern Alabama will also be hosting cookie drive-thrus on January 14, 2022, at their offices on this day.

Adventurefuls are a brownie-inspired cookie with a caramel filling and a sea salt drizzle on top. Toast-Yays are French toast-inspired cookies with cinnamon icing. Talk about delicious!

The Thin Mints, Caramel deLites, Shortbread, Lemonades, Peanut Butter Patties, Peanut Butter Sandwich, and the gluten-free Caramel Chocolate Chip cookies will also be available for purchase this year.

The Girl Scout Cookie Program is the nation's largest girl-led business and leading financial literacy program for girls. Through the Girl Scout Cookie Program, girls will be selling near you, visit girlscoutsssa.org.

Every purchase of Girl Scout Cookies is an investment in girls both now and in the future and their leadership capabilities, with 100 percent of the net revenue staying local. To learn more about the Girl Scout Cookie Program, and to find out when Girl Scouts will be selling near you, visit girlscoutsssa.org.

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IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA Elba Division

IN RE: The estate of **FEDERAL BARNES**, Deceased.

CASE NO. PC 2021-079

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration

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**PUBLIC NOTICES:**Public Notices also are posted on the websites: www.elba-clipper.com and www.alabamapublicnotices.com at no extra charge

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

having been granted to FLORENCE A. BARNES as administrator of the estate of **Federal Barnes**, deceased on the 23rd day of March, 2021, by the Honorable Judge of Probate.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Gary D. Bradshaw
GARY D. BRADSHAW
Attorney for Petitioner
12/23,30&1/6-pd.

PRE-QUALIFICATION OF BIDDERS AND ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

ADDITIONS TO NEW BROCKTON HIGH SCHOOL

AND NEW BROCKTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR THE COFFEE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM ELBA, ALABAMA

PROJECT NO.: 21-321
Requirements for Pre-qualification: All potential bidders shall contact the Architect at mckeeplans@gmail.com to receive the criteria to be used for the pre-qualification of project.(AIA Document A305 and Questionnaire). All general contractors that have previously pre-qualified with Coffee County School System are not required to pre-qualify - notify the Architect on your letterhead of your Intent to Bid @ mckeeplans@gmail.com**Pre-qualification Packages** for the above referenced project will be received at the office of the McKee Architects, 631 South Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104 until Thursday, January 20, 2022 @ 2:00 PM. Pre-qualification Packages shall be sent through the following e-mail account: mckeeplans@gmail.com

A list of qualified contractors shall be available from the Architect. The Owner at his choosing can add additional Contractors after the date above.

Only Contractors who have been approved to bid pursuant to the pre-qualification procedures and criteria established by the Owner will be eligible to bid the project.

All Contractors who have been approved to bid pursuant to the pre-qualification procedures and criteria established by the Owner will be eligible to bid the project.

The sealed proposal shall be received by Mrs. Kelly Cobb, Superintendent, at the Coffee County School System, 400 Reddoch Hill Road, Elba, Alabama until 2:00 P.M., Tuesday, February 8, 2022, then opened and read aloud.

Project shall be bid excluding taxes. Bids must be submitted on proposal form furnished by the Architect or copies thereof.

No bid may be withdrawn after scheduled closing for receipt of bids for a period of sixty (60) days. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive technical errors if, in the Owner's judgment, the best interests of the Owner will thereby be promoted.

A certified check or Bid Bond payable to Coffee County Schools in an amount not less than five

percent (5%) of the amount of the bid, but in no event more than \$10,000.00 must accompany the bidder's proposal. Performance and statutory labor and material payment bonds will be required at the signing of the Contract.

All bidders bidding in amounts exceeding that established by the State Licensing Board for General Contractors must be licensed under the provisions of Title 34, Chapter 8, Code of Alabama, 1975,

and must show evidence of license before bidding or bid will not be received or considered by the Architect.

All bidders shall show such evidence by clearly displaying current license number on the outside of the sealed envelope in which the proposal is delivered.

PDFs of the project can be reviewed by going to the McKee website @ www.mckeeassoc.com and selecting "Project Bid List".

Also, if you are not receiving NOTIFICATIONS from us, please register on our website, "Project Bid List" by selecting manage your bid list profile.

The documents may be viewed on-line and printed by General Contractors, Sub-Contractors and Suppliers. Documents published through this procedure are the only documents endorsed by the Architect.

The Architect is unable to monitor, confirm and maintain other websites that provide documents. Addendums will be provided to entities that have CONFIRMED bidding for this particular project.

The Architect retains ownership and copyrights of the documents. If bidders require printed sets, the following shall apply:

Submit to the Architect at mckeeplans@gmail.com the company's name, first & last name, phone number, address, project name & number along with a deposit of \$150.00 per set. The deposit shall be refunded for each set returned in reusable condition within ten days after bid opening.

All RFIs and RFAs regarding the bid documents shall be sent and addressed through emails found on the RFI and RFA forms in the project manual.

Get the Paper delivered directly to you at home in the mail...

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Today!!

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We Wish the

Best for You
in 2022!**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE VACATION OF A PORTION COFFEE COUNTY ROAD 173 (Previously Coffee County Road 100)**

The Coffee County Commission has received a written petition from the abutting landowners of a portion of Coffee County Road 173 requesting the vacation of said road. Pursuant to Section 23-4-20, Code of Alabama 1975, the Coffee County Commission shall hold a public hearing on January 10, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at the Coffee County Complex Community Room, New Brockton, Alabama concerning the proposed road vacation during the regularly scheduled Commission Meeting. The Commission is scheduled to address the proposed road vacation following the conclusion of the public hearing. The proposed public road to be vacated is described as follows:

The portion to be vacated will begin at the intersection of said County Road 173 and the east line of the NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 02, T-7-N, R-21-E, thence continue west along said County Road 173 approximately 4,455 feet to the intersection of said County Road 173 and the north line of the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 2, T-7-N, R-21-E, Coffee County, Alabama.

Any citizen alleging to be affected by the proposed vacation may file written objection or request to be heard at the public hearing. Written objections may be mailed, or hand delivered to The Coffee County Commission, #2 County Complex, New Brockton, AL 36351. Please contact the Coffee County Commission at (334) 894-5556 if you desire to be heard at the public hearing.

12/16,23,30&1/6-chg.

LIFESTYLES



New Hope Sr. Center holds 'drive through' Christmas Party

On Thursday, Dec. 23, the New Hope Senior Citizens Center held a 'drive through' Christmas Party for its seniors! The seniors were greeted by Santa and his elves as each received special treats and Christmas gifts.

Senior director Conzuella Banks said everyone was so excited and the joy of giving was in the air! She offered special thanks to all that donated to this special event for the senior citizens.

Those at the center wish all a Happy New Year!



Hours of Operation for the Elba Public Library

Monday 8 a.m. – 7 p.m. Tuesday 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Wednesday 8 a.m. – 12 noon

Thursday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Information being sought on World War II soldiers

The Stories Behind the Stars initiative was created to organize one central digital location to collect the stories of all Americans who were killed during World War II.

These personal stories will be digitally linked to war memorials and cemeteries by a smartphone app so visitors can read the stories of the fallen. Work is currently being done on all of the Alabama WWII soldiers.

Persons with any information or photo [willing to share] on any soldier who died or was killed in World War II from Coffee or Geneva County, Alabama, is asked to contact: Donna Snell, Ozark, AL [dpsnell@troycable.net or 334-774-6777].

Annual membership meeting planned for Landmark Park

The Annual Membership Meeting for Dothan's Landmark Park will be Sunday, Jan. 23, at 12 noon.

The meeting will start in the Stokes Activity Barn at noon for social hour and then a meal and a meeting at 1 p.m. New board members and officers will be elected, the Heritage Award and Volunteer Service Award will be presented. Park staff and board members will present highlights from 2021 and plans for 2022. Once the meeting is over, all are encouraged to spend your afternoon at the park!

Visit the Farmstead, boardwalk and other attractions to see what membership money supports. The long-awaited Alabama Agricultural Museum will

Fax Service available at The Elba Clipper

Only at Landmark Park in Dothan...

The Seed Swap and Garden Expo will be Saturday, Jan. 29, from 1-4 p.m., presented by Landmark Park and the Wiregrass Master Gardener Association.

This expo will be held in the Stokes Activity Barn. Activities will include trading seeds with fellow gardeners, plus info and demos on beekeeping, backyard chickens, getting started with home gardens, rain barrels, food preservation, composting and more.

Bring seeds to trade in the Seed Swap. This event is free with paid gate admission.

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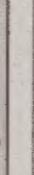
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We encourage you to SHOP ELBA!!

Follow Us for More Details!



The Elba Chamber of Commerce brought Pumpkins on the Square back in late October after taking 2020 off due to COVID-19 safety precautions, and citizens were excited to be back on the square for the fun event.

County extension office to host Ag Outlook meeting

The Coffee County Extension office and livestock in 2022. The meeting is will host a 2022 Ag Outlook Meeting free to attend, and a sponsored lunch on Tuesday, Jan. 25, from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Enterprise Farmers Market in Enterprise, Ala.

This Ag Outlook meeting will discuss market outlooks and trends for row crops

Alabama extension to host annual Wiregrass Cotton Expo

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System will host the 2022 Wiregrass Cotton Expo on Friday, Feb. 11, at the National Peanut Festival Fairgrounds in Dothan, Ala.

The expo will feature a vendor trade-show, and extension specialists speaking on a variety of topics including agronomic updates, the cotton market outlook for 2022, cotton chemical updates, and more.

Lifestyles (Continued from Page THREE) YEAR

News is due on Mondays

ADPH offers updated COVID-19 guidance for healthcare workers

Maintaining appropriate staffing in healthcare facilities is essential in providing a safe work environment for healthcare personnel and safe patient care.

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) follows the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding the response to the COVID 19 pandemic.

The CDC recently changed several of its specific recommendations for healthcare workers regarding COVID-19, and ADPH has issued a Health Alert Network message to healthcare providers in the setting of rising COVID-19 cases that includes strategies and recommendations.

The Omicron variant continues to spread, and vaccination is the best way to protect health and reduce the impact of COVID-19 on our communities.

The Health Alert Network message may be viewed at <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/bcd/han-messages.html>

The ADPH reminds the public, however, that vaccines remain the best preventive measure against severe disease, hospitalizations and death due to COVID-19 for eligible individuals. Most persons being hospitalized for COVID-19 infection and complications continue to be individuals who are not vaccinated or are only partially vaccinated.

Various therapeutics are available for preventing and treating COVID-19 in specific at-risk populations. Some therapeutics are in

ALGOP Election 2022 qualifying open

Qualifying for the 2022 Alabama Republican Party Primary opened Tuesday, Jan. 4, at 8:30 a.m.

The qualifying period will end Friday, Jan. 28, at 5 p.m., per the primary resolution passed by the Alabama Republican Party State Executive Committee.

Anyone wishing to qualify for the Republican ballot can do so on-line at www.algop.org or in person at ALGOP headquarters at 205.212.5900.

(Continued from Page THREE) YEAR

Pope, arrested on charge of engaging in a sex act with a student under the age of 19 – she was employed by the school system as the high school secretary at the time of her arrest; Elba City Council approves ordinance for deeding parcel of land to Armory Commission of Alabama; Elba Board of Education accepted resignation of high school secretary Martha Pope during an Oct. 14th meeting; John Ira Folmer of Elba killed in a two-vehicle accident on County Rd. 376 in Coffee County; Miranda Russell affirmed to seat on Elba school board; Trenton J. Sanders of Elba killed in single vehicle accident Oct. 24th on Alabama Hwy. 87 approximately 14 miles north of Elba; Carlos Magwood appointed to Elba Water and Electric Board

December – Elba City Council approves appointment of Troy Staley to be new police chief for Elba; Pro Football Focus names Elba native Alex Wright C-USA Defensive Player of the Year; Elba City Council approves employee 'Christmas gift' pay; ALDOT resurfacing projects begin in Elba; Coffee County Sheriff's Office announces arrest of Jason Starr in the November 2017 murder case of his former wife Sara Starr – he was charged by federal courts with use of interstate commerce facilities in the commission of murder for hire; Jason Ballard of Elba earns a World Championship in powerlifting; Elba history teacher Al Gilmore named local DAR chapter's 2021 Outstanding American History Teacher; Elba High's Callie Pope named Coffee County winner for DAR Good Citizen award; Elba Chamber hosts annual Christmas Parade; Kinston's Blair Wyrosdick named semi-finalist for 2021 Coca-Cola Scholars Program; New gymnasium officially opened for Zion Chapel School; Zion Chapel bass anglers win tourney; Elba City Council discusses 'old dime store' building as potential location for Elba Chamber office

November – During New Brockton Council meeting, motion for \$2 across the board pay raise for employees fails due to tie vote; Elba hosts annual Pumpkins on the Square event; Coffee County BOE approves preliminary redistricting map; Raeann McCollough attends financial conference as a rising star for Avadian Financial Services; Elba native, Courtney Pelham, uses her volunteer time off work to help at the Giving Garden in Elba; Elba Chamber launches first Elba Youth Leadership Program with 10 seniors in the inaugural group; Elba's Colin Sauls and Peyton McCullough sign scholarships with ESCC to play golf; Elba Chamber hosts ribbon cutting for Los Tigris Mexican Grill and Buffet; Elba Police find missing vehicle in vacant building; Vehicle crashed into Evergreen Cemetery fence; Coffee County Commission adopts redistricting plan

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SPORTS NEWS

Views From
The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

We had a surprise for our young grandson Lawson last week as one of the Christmas presents we ordered weeks ago finally showed up on the porch and he got to open one last present from 2021. It was just a Lego set that he quickly put together, but it did bring a smile to his face and that was my present.

For what it is worth....

*** **The Elba Tigers put an end** to their six-game losing streak last week with two wins in their holiday tournament and gave all Tigers fans hope for a big second half of the season. The Tigers could have easily just showed up for the three-game round-robin event, but instead came ready to play and posted impressive wins over 3A Goshen and 3A New Brockton, before falling by one-point in its final game to 1A power Florala. Elba's guards are beginning to find the range from behind the arc and with Chrystyle Caldwell back from his post-season all-star football games the Tigers are running at full speed. The meat of the schedule and the region contests are still yet to come, but despite their 4-7 record I've just got a hunch the Tigers are ready to roar.

*** **It has been a season of streaks** for the Elba Lady Tigers and it continued last week at their tournament as they lost three games to watch their record slip to 5-6. The Lady Tigers opened the season with two straight wins, then lost three straight games, won the next three games and then lost three games at the tourney. Elba has two of the area's top scorers in senior Nina Williams and freshman A'Lyric Whitfield, but have yet to have anyone else step up on a nightly basis, and even an aggressive defense hasn't been enough to lead to a consistent effort on the court. If the Lady Tigers keep playing their style of defense they will always be in games, but they have to find a couple of more girls to help out on the offensive end.

*** **Three of the teams in the area stayed busy** over the holidays with the Brantley Bulldogs and Kinston Bulldogs having the most fun. Brantley coasted to three lopsided wins by scores of 71-52, 72-25 and 70-23 to let everyone know it is a team to keep an eye on in the 1A ranks, while Kinston posted two wins in three games in a tournament in Florida and will enter the 2022 portion of the schedule having won three of its last four games. New Brockton lost all three games at the Elba tournament, but got in valuable on the court experience and the extra games will no doubt pay dividends down the road.

*** **The Elba Tigers released** their 2021 football schedule over the holidays and the schedule does have somewhat of a unique look with the first two games and last two games on the road, while five of the remaining six

games in the middle of the schedule will be held at Tiger Stadium. The Tigers will kick off the season with road trips to cross-county rivals New Brockton and Kinston, while they will be at home for the next five weeks that include four home games and an open date. The home games include Houston County, Brantley, Providence Christian and Red Level.

A road trip to Georgiana and homecoming against Florala come in the next two weeks, with the last two games on the road to Pleasant Home and McKenzie. The return to the 1A ranks brought with it lots of changes, but changes that should keep Elba fans excited about the upcoming season.

*** **Former Elba Tiger multi-sport standout Alex Wright** ended weeks of speculation and gave all Tiger fans something to brag about when he announced he was foregoing his senior season at UAB and would enter the upcoming NFL draft. Rumors had been circulating since the end of the season that the 6-7, 269-pound, defensive end would either enter the transfer portal or turn pro, and while the portal was definitely a worthwhile option, Wright chose the quickest path to the pros. Wright appeared in 34 games at UAB during his career as a Blazer and was credited with 91 tackles, 19 tackles for losses, 11.5 sacks, 3 forced fumbles, and 2 fumble recoveries, and was recently named the Conference USA 'defensive player of the year.' The next step won't be easy for Wright, but he seems to be focused and has his goals within sight.

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Record slips to 5-6

Lady Tigers drop three straight at tourney

The Elba Lady Tigers hosted the second annual 'Pear River Classic' girls' basketball tournament last week at the Elba High gym and never got into the holiday mood as they suffered three straight losses to see their record slip to 5-6.

Following is a recap of the three tournament games:

H.Home 50 Elba 41

The Elba Lady Tigers saw their three-game winning streak come to an abrupt end with a surprising 50-41 loss to the Highland Home Lady Squadron, last Monday afternoon in opening round action.

Elba grabbed an early 3-2 lead in the opening quarter on a three-pointer by Nina Williams, but Highland Home responded with an 8-0 run to go up 10-3 midway through the stanza and never lost command as the Lady Squadron carried a 16-10 into the second stanza.

A'Lyric Whitfield and Kendra Juarez sparked an Elba rally early in the second quarter as the Lady Tigers pulled within 18-15. However, the Lady Tigers went cold from the floor and added only two points to the remained of the half as they trailed 22-17 at intermission.

Highland Home upped its lead to 27-19 early in the third quarter and appeared to be ready to take command, but Elba's Nina Williams hit two three-pointers in a span of less than a minute to pull the Lady Tigers within 29-25 and forced a Highland Home time out. The time out worked for the Lady Squadron as Highland Home closed the quarter with a 9-2 run to open up a 27-27 advantage.

G'ville (72): Jones 8, Ocear 12, Anderson 9, Edwards 5, Swinney 2, Oliver 36.

Elba (45): Tinsley 2, N. Williams 12, Purvis 4, Whitfield 24, B. Williams 1, Juarez 2.

Andalusia 53 Elba 42

The Elba Lady Tigers fell behind in the second quarter and never caught up in the second half in a 53-42 loss to the Andalusia Lady Bulldogs, in day three action on Thursday afternoon.

Elba came out ready to play in their tournament finale and grabbed a 10-8 lead late in the first quarter on a short jumper by Tajah Purvis, only to see Andalusia go on an 18-0 run to open up a 26-10



Elba Lady Tiger Alayvia Stinson toes the three-point line as she looks for an open teammate in recent basketball action.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

advantage late in the half. A'Lyric Whitfield hit two free throws with 2:14 remaining in the stanza to break the long scoring drought, while Nina Williams added two baskets in the final minute to help the Lady Tigers pull within 27-16 at the half.

Elba got within 27-18 early in the third quarter on a basket by Kendra Juarez. However, the Lady Bulldogs went on a 6-2 run to stretch their lead to 33-20. A late three-pointer by Elba's Nina Williams pulled the Lady Tigers within 33-25 heading into the fourth quarter, but Andalusia again answered the Elba rally and scored the first 12 points of the quarter to take a commanding 45-25 advantage. Elba's Nina Williams drained three long three-pointers in the game's closing four minutes; however, Andalusia never lost com-

mand and at the final horn had the 53-42 win.

Nina Williams scored 25 points and A'Lyric Whitfield added 12 to lead Elba, while Zanya Anderson scored 15 points to lead Andalusia and Cape Merrill added 14.

Andy (53): Anderson 15, Doss 2, Gay 11, McMeans 1, Merrill 14, Nelson 3, Newson 6.

Elba (42): Williams 25, Purvis 4, Whitfield 12, Stinson 1, Juarez 3.

Elba High basketball tickets for home games must be purchased at gofan.com



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SPORTS NEWS

Tigers win two in tourney

The Elba Tigers hosted the second annual 'Pea River Classic' boys' basketball tournament last week at the Elba High gym and celebrated the holiday festivities by claiming two big wins in three tourney games.

Following is a recap of the tournament action:

Elba 67 Goshen 19

The Elba Tigers opened tournament action with a big 67-19 win over the Goshen Eagles, last Monday night in Elba.

Elba took a 2-0 lead before the clock was even turned on when Zaydrian Daniels hit a pair of free throws after a technical foul, and the Tigers never slowed down once the clock did start as Byron Burks and Alvin Henderson both drained long three-pointers to help the Tigers race out to a 13-0 lead. Goshen finally found its way to the basket midway through the quarter, but it made little difference as Elba carried a 23-4 lead into the second stanza.

Jordan Marek scored twice early in the second quarter on baseline jumpers as Elba's lead grew to 27-4, and the Tigers kept pouring it on as Chrystyle Caldwell and Alvin Henderson scored from close to push the lead to 31-4. Elba took its biggest lead of the half at 38-7 with 1:46 left on two free throws by Chayse Peterson, and went in at intermission with a big 41-12 advantage.

Chrystyle Caldwell got inside the Goshen defense for 8 points in the third quarter as the Tigers lead ballooned to 60-19, and the Elba defense tossed a shutdown and Jordan Marek scored 5 points in the final stanza as the Tigers finished off the 67-19 win.

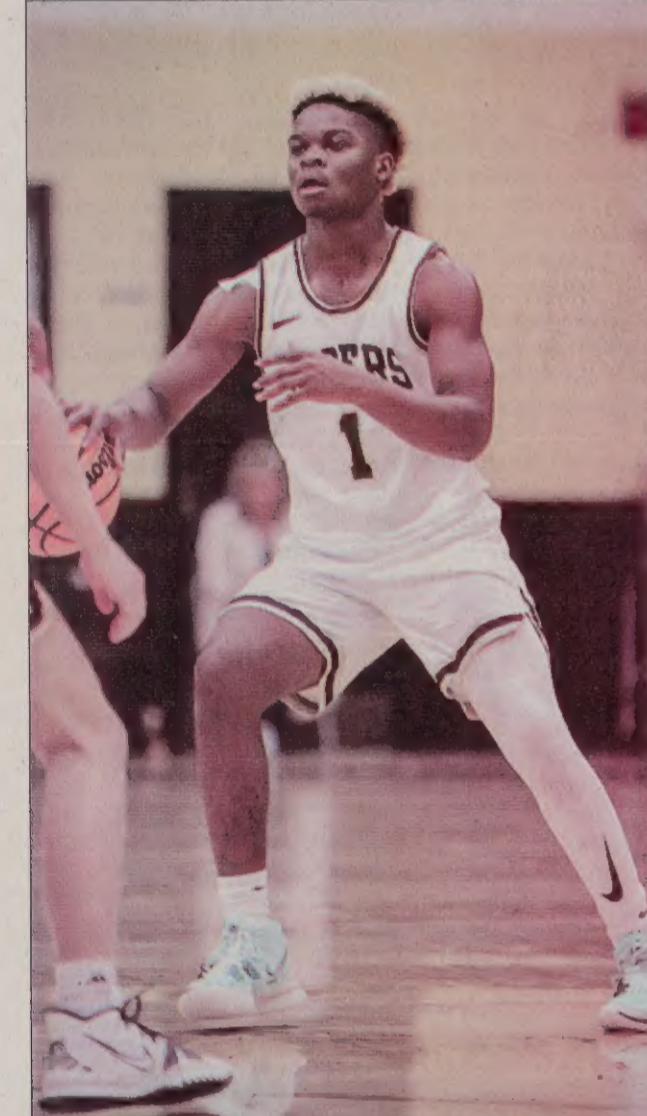
Alvin Henderson scored 19 points to lead Elba, while Byron Burks added 14, Jordan Marek added 13 and Chrystyle Caldwell scored 11. Jayden Williams led Goshen with 16 points.

Elba (67): Coleman 4, Burks 14, Marek 13, Peterson 2, Caldwell 11, Henderson 19, Daniels 4.

Goshen (19): Williams 16, Andrews 1, Gilford 2.

Elba 54 New Brockton 48

The Elba Tigers pulled ahead early and held on late to post an exciting 54-48 second round win over the New



Elba Tiger JT Coleman (1) looks to drive in recent basketball action. The Tigers snapped a six-game losing streak last week with two wins in the Pea River Classic.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

Brockton Gamecocks, last Tuesday night. Chrystyle Caldwell and Alvin Henderson combined for 10 first quarter points to help the Tigers grab an early 10-5 lead, while Byron Burks drained a pair of long three-pointers and scored 8 points in the second quarter as Elba carried a 30-21 lead in at the half.

Jordan Marek muscled inside for 4 points and Burks added his third three-pointer of the game in the third quarter as the Tigers increased their lead to 45-31 heading into the final stanza, and while the Tigers hit only one of four free throw tries in the final stanza, Chrystyle Caldwell tossed in six points as Elba turned back a late Gamecock rally to post the 54-48 win.

Chrystyle Caldwell scored 22 points and Byron Burks added 15 to lead Elba, while Yassiah Rousseau scored 17 points and Matt Smith added 14 for the Gamecocks.

Elba (54): Marek 4, Coleman 2, Burks 15, Caldwell 22, Henderson 4, Siler 2, Daniels 5.

New. (48): Lawson 2, Foster 5, Smith 14, McNabb 2, Silar 8, Rousseau 17.

Florala 62 Elba 61

The Elba Tigers saw a furious fourth quarter rally fall one-point short in a wild 62-61 loss to the Florala Wildcats.

Florala came out on fire from behind the arc and drained three quick three-pointers to jump out to a 9-3 lead. Elba's Chrystyle Caldwell began to score from inside and Byron Burks added a late three-pointer to cut the Wildcats lead to 9-8, but Florala refused to relinquish the lead and owned a 16-14 advantage heading into the second stanza. Burks and Caldwell both hit three-pointers in the second quarter to keep the Tigers close, but the Wildcats regained command late and carried a 34-22 lead in at intermission.

Chrystyle Caldwell poured in 11 points in the third quarter to help the Tigers pull within 46-39, and while Caldwell added 10 fourth quarter points and connected on 4 of 4 free throw tries, the senior fouled out late and Florala held on to claim the wild 62-61 tournament win.

Chrystyle Caldwell scored 32 points and Byron Burks added 11 to pace the Tigers, while Rayshon Coleman scored 19 points and Elijah McMeans added 17 for the Wildcats.

Florala (62): Bradberry 13, Seago 3, McMeans 17, Johnson 2, Coleman 19, Gresham 8.

Elba (61): Marek 2, Coleman 5, Burks 11, Peterson 1, Caldwell 32, Henderson 6, Daniels 5.

PEA RIVER CLASSIC**Basketball Tournament****Results:****Men's Round-Robin****First Round:**

Brantley 71 Pike County 52

Highland Home 66

New Brockton 39

Elba 67 Goshen 19

Second Round:

Brantley 72 Goshen 25

Elba 54 New Brockton 48

Third Round:

Florala 62 Elba 61

Highland Home 51

Goshen 19

Brantley 70 New Brockton 23

Women's Tournament**Opening Round:**

Highland Home 50

Elba 41

Crestview 51

Greenville 27

Florala 59 Andalusia 40

Winner's Bracket:**(Semifinals)**

Crestview 45

Highland Home 25

Enterprise 53 Florala 46

(Finals)

Enterprise 61

Crestview 46

Loser's Bracket:

Greenville 72 Elba 45

Andalusia 53 Elba 42

Florala 57 H.Home 38



Elba Tiger Chrystyle Caldwell (5) drives to the basket. Caldwell scored 32 points in last week's 62-61 tourney loss to Florala.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

High School BASKETBALL SCHEDULES**Thursday, Jan. 6**

Samson at Kinston

Zion Chapel at Arton

J.F. Shields at Brantley

Brantley at Straughn

Friday, Jan. 7

Arton at Elba

New Brockton at Opp

Zion Chapel at G.W. Long

Saturday, Jan. 8

Opp at Elba

Luverne at Brantley

Monday, Jan. 10

McKenzie at Brantley

Tuesday, Jan. 11

Elba at G.W. Long

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